

**Minutes of the Southern Utah Veterans Home-Ivins,
Advisory Board Meeting,
April 13, 2017**

In Attendance: Terry Dunne (Chairman), Chris Hart (Board Member), Ron Lee (Board Member), Scott Smith (Board Member), Janet Warner (Board Member), Mel Brewer (Resident Board Member), Dennis McFall (Deputy Director – UDVMA), Tony Moore (State Officer), Jerry Olson (Nursing Home Administrator).

Excused: Board Members Lloyd Laycook, Jeff McKenna, Rodger Tracy, and Barbara Holck

Meeting called to order by Chairman Dunne at 4:00 pm and all present were welcomed.

1. Prayer offered by Mel Brewer.
2. New Board Member (Janet Warner) introduced.
3. Minutes of January 12, 2017 Meeting referenced for individual read and all board members should have received them via email. Chairman Dunne requested and Board Member Hart motioned to approve the April 2017 Meeting Minutes, seconded by Board Member Smith, motion passed unanimously.
4. Administrator Olson provided the following:
 - a. Patriot Day shadow boxes shown to the board that memorialize the Patriot Day speakers.
 - b. CMS Survey results. The Survey Team arrived on 31 January, 2017. We had a good survey with only one citation for food storage. The state-wide average for CMS survey citations is about 8.6, we had one, so we are feeling good about the fact we only had one, but our goal is still zero. Additionally, about 6 weeks following our CMS Survey, we had a federal life safety surveyor do a “look-back” survey. The look-back surveys are not uncommon and the facility was cited for having the key-pad access doors. This was cited as an impediment to egress from the building in the case of an emergency. As a result, we will be pursuing a physical change to come in compliance and a limited-time waiver has been submitted and approved to give us sufficient time to complete the modification.
 - c. Hiring and Retention update. The Administrator reminded the board that during the last meeting he had informed the board of some initiatives (\$1/hr wage increase for CNAs,) it has been somewhat successful given the metric that overtime numbers have dropped. Administrator Olson provided a summary of the Utah Health Care Conference and the theme of the conference, “The Evolution of the Workforce”, and how that ties into some of the challenges the younger workers present and we often see in our own workers.

5. State Officer Report (Tony Moore):

- a. The State Officer provided a summary of the National Association of State Veterans Homes (NASVH) Winter Conference that he attended in February. Of note, the association supports certain pieces of legislation targeted to help veterans. This years' legislation included a bill to add Adult Day Care to be eligible for VA funding similar to our how we get funding for our residents now. Additionally, Senator Orin Hatch was recognized by NASVH as the Legislator of the Year and presented a plaque by our Utah delegation during the week. Senator Hatch visited our facility the following weekend and spent a few minutes addressing our residents and taking some questions.
- b. The State Officer then provided an update on the progress of the Veterans Memorial Park project here at the facility. The park is currently under construction with an estimated completion date of 6 May, 2017. The park design, based on bids received from contractors, had to be modified to fit within the allocated budget. However, the design included 10 lights, only 5 of the lights are currently funded, and he is soliciting donations to cover the cost of the 5 unfunded lights (~\$7500). A Memorial Park dedication ceremony will be held on Wednesday 31 May, 2017 at 11:00am.
- c. The State Officer then provided an update on a Golf Tournament. Our facility will be hosting a Golf Tournament in the fall with the expectation that this will become an annual fall event. The American Legion Post 90 will partner with the SUVH to run the golf tournament.
- d. The State Officer then solicited for nominations for our Veterans Honor Wall. The requirements to be nominated are 1) must be a veteran, 2) must a member of the local community, and 3) must provide some service for the SUVH. Dennis McFall also stated that the department was really looking for individuals who have provided "significant contributions" to the veteran's community.
- e. The State Officer then discussed local author Mac Magee's book, From Sea to Distant Shores, and his effort to raise money for the Veterans Home thru writing this book and his plan to write 2 more books about his service in the U.S. Navy from 1955 to 1965. It would be welcome if we could encourage sales of the book in some way. Dennis McFall suggested that the facility hold an event here at the home where the author could come and sign books that people have purchased and even stated that we could purchase a number of books to have on hand. Board Member Janet Warner brought up a good recent experience where the Department-sponsored Vietnam Service book had a positive effect on a Vietnam Veteran. Dennis encouraged each board member to take a book if they desired and for everyone to let Vietnam Veterans know of the books existence and that they are available for free distribution to Vietnam Veterans.

6. Resident Report (Board Member Brewer): The different events since the last board meeting were provided on an events page in the meeting packet.

- a. Past Events: January 31st – Cub Scout Pinewood Derby event sponsored by the Santa Clara 3rd and 5th LDS Wards; February 18th – Senator Orrin Hatch visit; March 10th – National Elks Lodge President visit; Additionally, there were 2 services in February and 2 services in March for recently passed residents.
7. Utah Department of Veterans & Military Affairs Update:
 - a. Dennis McFall brought up the fact that 3 board member terms (Lloyd Laycook, Chris Hart, and Ron Lee) are expiring on 30 June, 2017. He encouraged input from the board on replacements.
 - b. He discussed that this legislative session went very well for the Utah Department of Veterans & Military Affairs. Currently no departmental budget issues. The outreach effort with our department is going very well and we continue to help veterans apply for their benefits and also increase benefits when appropriate.
 - c. He discussed that the department is continuing to pursue the egress door citation/modification issue.
 - d. He mentioned the Avalon corporate hiring process change that seemed to slow hiring efforts and that it was changed back to the previous process for the veterans homes.
 - e. Terry Dunne brought up the Elks Lodge visit and stated that the Elks Lodge National President was extremely impressed with his visit and the facility.
8. Board Business Items:
 - a. No new business items.
 - b. Chairman Dunne pointed out the list of key personnel here at the facility which was included in the board packet and stated that board members should be aware of who these key personnel are.
9. The Meeting was adjourned by motion from Board Member Brewer, seconded by Board Member Lee and Chairman Dunne adjourned the meeting at 5:08 pm. Next Meetings tentatively to be held at 4:00 pm on:
 - a. 13 July, 2017
 - b. 12 October, 2017
 - c. 14 December, 2017